

Docket No.: A-3171

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Date: September 30, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kai Albrecht et al.  
Applic. No. : 09/997,981  
Filed : November 29, 2001  
Title : Method and Device for Synchronizing Processes which are  
Performed on a Plurality of Units  
Art Unit : 2121

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

United States Patent No. 5,691,660 (Busch et al.), dated November 25, 1997;

United States Patent No. 5,873,307 (Tenfelde et al.), dated February 23, 1999,  
which corresponds with previously filed European Patent Application EP 0 747 216  
B1, dated December 11, 1996;

European Patent Application EP 0 327 083 A2 (Dorn et al.), dated August 9, 1989,  
and English abstract thereof;

European Search Report dated July 14, 2003.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) the undersigned herewith states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a

communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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For Applicants

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Date: September 30, 2003

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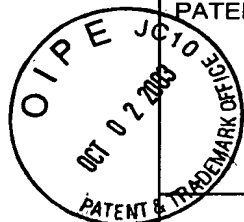
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FORM PTO-1449 (SUBSTITUTE)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEINFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  
(37 CFR 1.98(b))Attorney Docket No.:  
A-3171Applic. No.  
09/997,981

Applicant

Kai Albrecht et al.

Filing Date  
November 29, 2001Group Art Unit  
2121

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		PATENT NO.	DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE
	A	5,691,660	11/25/97	Busch et al.			
	B	5,873,307	02/23/99	Tenfelde et al.			
	C						
	D						
	E						
	F						
	G						
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSL. YES   NO
	J	0 327 083 A2	08/09/89	Europe			X
	K						
	L						
	M						
	N						

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	O	
	P	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.